

# **Rhode Island Health Professional Loan Repayment Program (RI HPLRP)**

## **BOARD MEETING MINUTES July 22, 2013**

### **BOARD MEMBERS ATTENDING:**

Michael Fine, MD	Chair, RI Department of Health (HEALTH)
Steven Brown, DMD	RI Dental Association
Linda Gillette	Warren Alpert Medical School at Brown University
Linda Makhoul	RI Higher Education Assistance Authority
Donna Policastro, APRN-BC	RI State Nurses Association
Ruth Ricciarelli	Hospital Association of Rhode Island
Mary Sullivan, Ph.D.	URI College of Nursing

### **BOARD MEMBERS UNABLE TO ATTEND:**

Steve DeToy	RI Medical Society
Jane Hayward	RI Health Center Association

### **STAFF TO BOARD:**

David S. Robinson, Ed.D, Office of Primary Care & Rural Health, HEALTH  
Monica B. Tavares, Office of Primary Care & Rural Health, HEALTH

### **HEALTH DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATIVES:**

Steve Morris	HEALTH
Ana Novais, MA	HEALTH

### **I. Meeting called to order at 9:00a.m.**

#### **Open Meeting/Old Business**

The board reviewed and approved the meeting minutes for June 17, 2013.

## **II. Award Recipients**

The RI HPLRP received 18 applications. Ten applicants received a denial letter; eight was due to incomplete application packages and two due to in-eligibility. Award letters were sent to eight recipients. All award recipients were cleared from any complaints or violations against their licenses. The office received a nice thank you e-mail from one of the award recipients.

RIHEAA conducted a background check on each recipient (credit check, loan default, etc) and they were all cleared to receive the award. RIHEAA is waiting on loan balances verification before DOH can send payments to the loan servicing agencies. Two providers (1 Dentist, 1 primary care) were not happy with their denial letters and called to express their disappointment. They wished they were given the opportunity to make the applications complete.

### **Award Ceremony and Acknowledgment of Funders**

The event will take place on August 20, 2013 from 2:00-3:00p.m. at the State House in the state room. The primary care office is working with Jane Hayward (RIHCA) to plan the event. We have invited one of the award recipients, Eric N. Berard as a guest speaker to talk about what the award means to him and how he thinks it can help him. Discussed the possibility of inviting the below guests to present at the event.

- **Jeffrey Beard, JD** – Office of Regional Operations, Region 1, to present on caring for the underserved.
- **Dr. Jack H. Geiger** – Founder of Community Health Center, to present on history of community health centers.

### ***D. Next Steps***

- Next HPLRP Board Meeting is on August 20, 2013 before the Award & Recognition Ceremony Event.
- Add continuing funding for the next year's award on the agenda for the next meeting.
- Add history of the Loan Repayment Program to next meeting's agenda.
- All board members should think about possible funders (internally or partners) for the next year.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00a.m.